

I'm very disturbed by the recent effects of the FCC's lax attitude towards the dangers of media consolidation, particularly with respect to Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air the anti-Kerry political documentary "Stolen Honor".

The airwaves are a public resource; they should not be allowed to be usurped by media conglomerates intent on dominating our public discourse with self-serving, one-sided opinions. When national and global companies control the content of our airwaves, the opinions expressed reflect more of the companies' interests as opposed to what is good for the public and our democracy. We need more local and community points of view expressed on our public airwaves.

The FCC, as the regulator of a public trust, should strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. The public owns the airways, not media corporations. We must reserve the right of the public and local communities to express their own opinions and have equal access to the airwaves. Please strengthen the media ownership rules and don't allow corporations such as Sinclair Broadcasting to renew their licenses if they continue to abuse the public trust.

Thank you,

Mark J. Hood